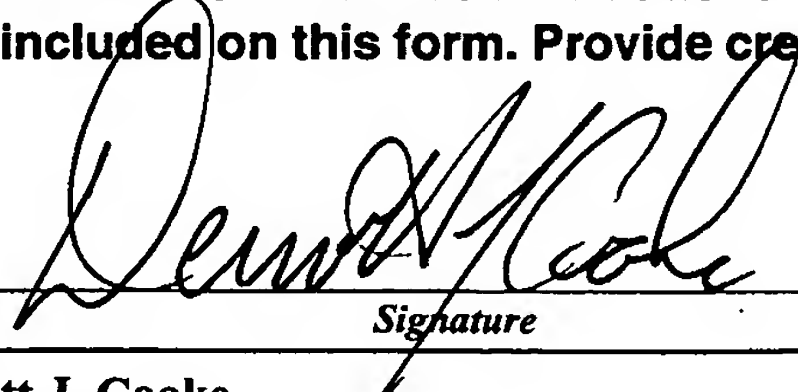
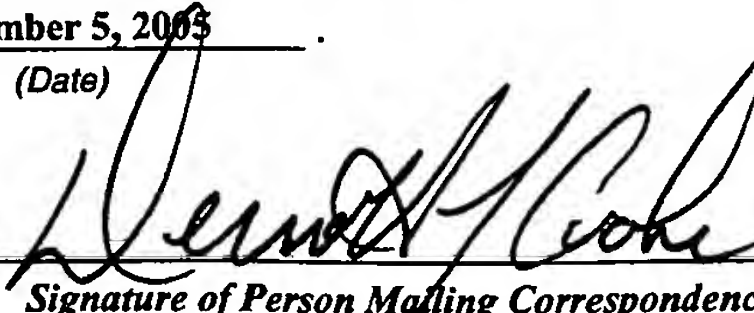


JPW/AS

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)					Docket No. 14641Z (ETH-1559CONT)	
Applicant(s): Parris S. Wellman et al.						
Application No. 10/615,152	Filing Date July 8, 2003	Examiner Michael F. Peffley	Customer No. 23389	Group Art Unit 3739	Confirmation No. 8263	
Invention: SURGICAL DEVICE FOR CLAMPING, LIGATING, AND SEVERING TISSUE						
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:						
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.						
CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	13 -	20 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	2 -	3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	
<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: row;"><div style="flex: 1;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 19-1013/SSMP <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.</div><div style="flex: 1; padding-left: 20px;">WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</div></div>						
 _____ Signature			Dated: December 5, 2005			
Dermott J. Cooke Reg. No. 41,685 SCULLY, SCOTT, MURPHY & PRESSER 400 Garden City Plaza, Ste. 300 Garden City, NY 11530 (516) 742-4343 DJC:jam			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on</p><p style="text-align: center;"><u>December 5, 2005</u> (Date)</p><p style="text-align: center;"> Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</p><p style="text-align: center;">Dermott J. Cooke Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</p></div>			
CC:						



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BOX AF

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.
§1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3739**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Parris S. Wellman, et al.

Examiner: Michael F. Peffley

Serial No: 10/615,152

Art Unit: 3739

Filed: July 8, 2003

Docket: 14641Z (ETH-1559CONT)

For: SURGICAL DEVICE FOR
CLAMPING, LIGATING, AND
SEVERING TISSUE

Dated: December 5, 2005

Conf. No.: 8263

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

This Amendment is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed September 28, 2005. Entry and consideration of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 5, 2005.

Dated: December 5, 2005


Dermott J. Cooke